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Newsletter

Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Mapping Program

Three States Mark Completion of Initial Topographic Mapping

Texas, South Dakota, and Wisconsin marked completion of initial primary (1:24,000-scale) topographic mapping of their States with ceremonies attended by their respective governors and USGS officials. USGS mapping surveys of some of these States began as far back as the 1880's. Under the National Mapping Program, 1:24,000-scale mapping of all 48 conterminous States is expected to be completed by 1991.

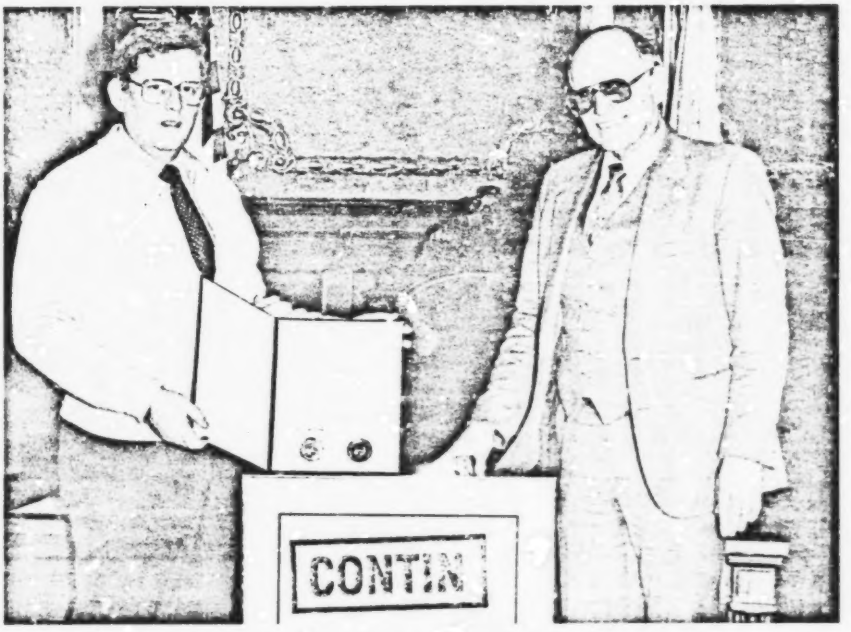
In congratulating "everyone who played key roles in producing these maps," Lowell Starr, Chief of the USGS National Mapping Division, cited the excellent cooperation between the three States and the USGS in bringing about the early completion. "Such detailed, accurate, and up-to-date maps are essential tools for planning and managing our natural resources," Starr said.

In a ceremony held February 21 in Galveston, Texas became the 22d State to complete its mapping as part of the USGS mapping program. The topographic map coverage of Texas, as the largest of the 48 conterminous States, required 4,376 separate map sheets at a scale of 1:24,000, the most detailed map series published by the USGS. Each map in the Texas series depicts from 60 to 67 square miles, depending on latitude.

In contrast, South Dakota, which celebrated its map completion on March 11 in the governor's office in Pierre, required 1,542 separate map sheets at a scale of 1:24,000. Each map in the South Dakota series depicts from 49 to 55 square miles, depending on latitude.

Wisconsin's primary topographic coverage required more than 1,100 separate map sheets, with each map depicting from 51 to 55 square miles, depending on latitude. Wisconsin's presentation ceremony took place April 21 in Madison, and a symposium followed at the University of Wisconsin on the past, present, and future of mapping technology and its impact on mapping Wisconsin and the Nation.

Three other States—Iowa, Illinois, and Colorado—are expected to have completed initial topographic mapping by the end of this calendar year.



South Dakota Governor William J. Janklow displays his State's certificate commemorating completion of initial topographic mapping presented March 11 by NMD Chief Lowell E. Starr.

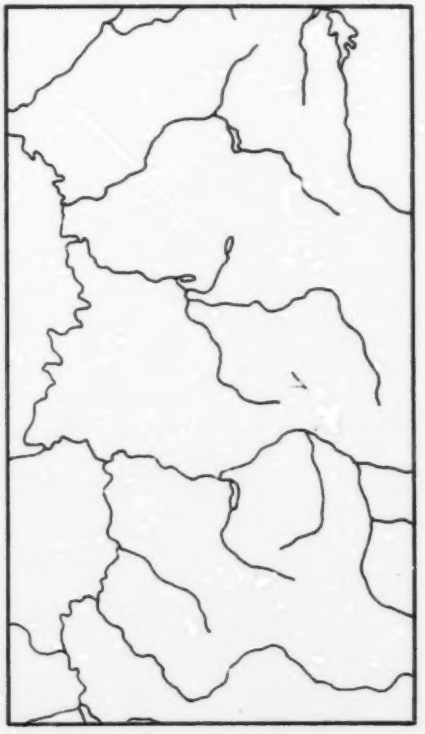
Comments? Suggestions?

It's *your* newsletter. Send your comments—along with any suggestions for future articles—to:

Editor, NCIC Newsletter
508 National Center
U.S. Geological Survey
Reston, VA 22092

1:100,000-Scale US GeoData Digital Line Graphs to be Released

On July 15, 1986, the USGS will begin distribution of US GeoData Digital Line Graphs (DLG's) from 1:100,000-scale maps. These data are topologically structured, attribute coded, and available in standard or optional DLG format. Data on transportation and hydrography will be distributed in groups of 7 1/2-minute files that make up 30- by 30-minute areas of coverage in the east or west halves of the 1:100,000-scale maps. The data now available have not been processed through edge matching software, and do not include edge join quality control flags. After the USGS can process 1:100,000-scale DLG's through edge matching software, DLG's will be distributed in groups of 15-minute files for each 30- by 30-minute block. In either case, edge matched or not, the cost will be $75 per data category in 30- by 30-minute blocks. In addition to the new DLG's, a 1:100,000-scale DLG Data Users Guide and a sample data set (Chickamauga quadrangle, GA-AL-TN) are currently available and may be ordered by contacting any NCIC office.



Example of plot from 1:100,000-Scale Digital Line Graph for Hydrography. ▶

Secretary of the Interior Don Hodel (right) examines the atlas of the West Coast seafloor ("EZZ Atlas") with British Ambassador Sir Oliver Wright (left) and Dallas Peck, Director of the U.S. Geological Survey.

New USGS Maps Published

New maps available from USGS (checks payable to Dept. of the Interior-USGS), Map Distribution, Box 25285, Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225:

Satellite Image Map of the Richmond, Virginia, Area
A colorful new 1:250,000-scale experimental satellite image map of the Richmond, Va., area shows the Richmond area and the dramatic sweep of the James, York, and Rappahannock Rivers cutting southeast into the Chesapeake Bay between Hampton, Va., and Smith Island, Md. Two Landsat multispectral scanner images were digitally spliced to produce the map. The standard USGS 1:250,000-scale topographic map of the area is printed on the back of the image map to make the map easier to interpret. Copies of the "Richmond Satellite Image Map" are $6 each. Orders for less than $10 must include an additional $1 for postage and handling.

Topographic Maps of the Mount Hood, Oregon, Volcanic Area
New maps useful in determining areas subject to volcanic hazards if Mount Hood were to erupt are two multicolored topographic maps of the Mount Hood, Oreg., volcanic area, printed back-to-back on the same sheet and containing a wide variety of topographic, hydrologic, and geographic information. One side of the map is printed at 1:24,000-scale and depicts about 235 square miles of land surface in Oregon, while the other side is printed at 1:100,000-scale, and shows a larger area of about 4,550 square miles of Oregon and Washington. The "Mount Hood and Vicinity" map sheet is available in flat or folded editions at $6 per sheet. Orders for less than $10 must include an additional $1 for postage and handling.

Geologic Map of Cape Cod and the Islands, Massachusetts
A space-age satellite "snapshot" of Cape Cod has been combined with a geologic map to produce a new multicolor, experimental map that shows the entire Cape Cod, including the Elizabeth Islands; Martha's Vineyard; Nantucket Island; Monomoy Island; and the smaller islands of Nomans Land, Muskegat, and Tuckernuck. Through use of innovative cartographic techniques, a mosaic of four Landsat 3 images taken from an altitude of 569 miles were combined to produce a map showing the rough outline of Cape Cod overprinted with standard-color geologic map units. Copies of map number I-1763 are $3 each. Orders for less than $10 must include an additional $1 for postage and handling.

Mexican Border Color Photo-Image Maps
Eight color photo-image maps covering about 68 miles of the U.S. border with Mexico (along the southwestern New Mexico border between the Continental Divide and the West Potrillo Mountains) have been published as part of an interagency agreement between USGS and the U.S. Customs Service to map the entire U.S.-Mexican border. To date, 56 of the 203 planned maps of the border have been published. The 1:25,000-scale maps depict areas of about 64 square miles extending about three miles on either side of the border. The maps were designed for study and regulation of vehicle routes used by border traffic, but can be used by tourists as well. $2.50 per map. Orders for less than $10 must include an additional $1 for postage and handling.

Complete identification and price information of recently published map products appear in the monthly list, "New Publications of the U.S. Geological Survey." Free subscriptions are available from U.S. Geological Survey, 582 National Center, Reston, VA 22092.

GLORIA Sonar Image Atlas of the West Coast EEZ
Unique sonar images of 250,000 square miles of the deep-water sea floor off the West Coast of the conterminous United States reveal a number of physiographic and geologic features, including volcanoes, faults, and sediment-carrying channels. Composed of introductory material and three data sections, the Atlas is intended for use by earth scientists, oceanographers, and students as reconnaissance information for planning further studies of the sea floor.

Copies of I-1792, "Atlas of the Exclusive Economic Zone, Western Conterminous United States," are $45.00 each.

Outline of 250,000-square-mile area off the west coast of the conterminous United States surveyed for the EEZ Atlas.

Available from the EROS Data Center, Sioux Falls, SD 57198. Call 605-594-6151 or FTS 784-7151:

AVHRR Western United States Mosaic
An experimental Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) multicolor satellite image mosaic of the western half of the conterminous 48 States, prepared from data collected by the NOAA-8 meteorological satellite, is a product of USGS's continuing research into the use of remotely sensed data in the earth sciences. AVHRR data products are useful for investigating the health and vigor of crops, the seasonal dryness and fire potential of forests and rangelands, the temperature and turbidity of water, ice conditions in shipping lanes, or snow-cover sources for urban and rural water supplies.

The mosaic is available in the following sizes and prices: 9 in./$15; 18 in./$35; 27 in./$50; and 36 in./$70. A 9-inch color infrared transparency is also available for $25.

Lowell E. Starr

Starr Named New Chief of National Mapping Division

Lowell E. Starr was recently named Chief of the USGS National Mapping Division, replacing Rupert B. Southard who retired after serving as mapping chief since 1978.

Mr. Starr joined the USGS in 1957 and began his career in field-survey operations in the Rolla, Mo., mapping center. He transferred to the Washington, D.C., area in 1965 and held several key positions in production, research, and management. Prior to his appointment as division chief, Starr served as assistant division chief for research and development since 1978.

Mr. Starr was born in Iola, Kan. He received a bachelor's degree in geology from Kansas State University (1957) and completed additional studies in mathematics at the University of Missouri. He is the author or co-author of numerous scientific and technical papers in cartographic, geographic, and remote-sensing research. His government awards for achievement include the Department of the Interior's two highest honors, the Distinguished and Meritorious Service Awards.

A member of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing and the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, Starr is past chairman of the International Cartographic Association Standing Commission on Advanced Technology; and is chairman of the Committee on Topographic Maps and Aerophotogrammetry of the Commission on Cartography, Pan American Institute of Geography and History.

NCIC State Affiliates Now Include 20 Universities

Two new State affiliates, Indiana and Maine, along with a new affiliate in Hawaii—all three associated with State universities—bring the number of affiliates now directly or indirectly connected to universities to 20.

"The university environment offers excellent opportunities for an NCIC program to be of service to the academic community and the surrounding general public," according to Walter Wagner, who coordinates affiliate activities at NCIC headquarters. He cites access to universities' on-line communications as one benefit for NCIC affiliates and lists the new Indiana affiliate as an example.

Located at Purdue University in West Lafayette, the Indiana affiliate has a direct on-line communications link, through the University's Agricultural Data Network, with agricultural extension agents for each county within the State. Dr. Chris J. Johannsen is the NCIC coordinator.

One of the two new affiliates in Maine is associated with the University of Maine at Orono, with Louis Morin as the coordinator. The other affiliate is located at the Maine Geological Survey in Augusta, with Bob Tucker as coordinator.

A third new academic affiliate is the University of Hawaii at Manoa. This new affiliate is located at the University's Thomas Hale Hamilton Library, with John R. Haak as coordinator. The University at Manoa joins the present affiliate office, the Hawaii Department of Planning and Economic Development, as affiliates for the State of Hawaii.

Consolidated USGS Distribution Facility Opens in Denver

The U.S. Geological Survey has announced the consolidation of the Eastern and Western Distribution Branches to provide all USGS products from a single source in Denver, Co.

The consolidation of these two regional branches will close the facilities of the Eastern Branch in Northern Virginia. Maps for the Eastern United States will no longer be available from the 1200 S. Eads St., Arlington, Va., warehouse, and USGS books, leaflets, and other publications will no longer be sold from 604 S. Pickett St., Alexandria, Va.

On the following effective dates, all USGS products will be available at the Denver location:

Maps	
Over-the-counter	May 1, 1986
Mail orders	July 1, 1986
Text Products	
Leaflets, over-the-counter and mail order	April 21, 1986
Books	September 1, 1986

Addresses for the consolidated facility are:

Maps:

U.S. Geological Survey
Map Distribution
Box 25285
Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225

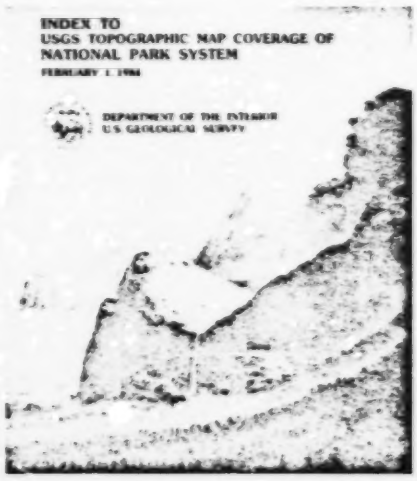
Text Products:

U.S. Geological Survey
Books and Open-File Reports
Box 25425
Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225

Guide to USGS Map Indexes Now Available

To provide easy access to the thousands of new and revised topographic and geologic maps and other types of cartographic data products produced each year by the U.S. Geological Survey, USGS publishes map indexes that are updated periodically. Now there is a new 2-page guide to the map indexes. The guide—available free from NCIC offices, Public Inquiries Offices, and the Map Distribution Center—briefly describes the contents of State indexes, State catalogs, and State geologic maps, and the following 12 U.S. indexes:

- Status and Progress of Topographic Mapping
- Index to Orthophotoquad Mapping
- Index to National High-Altitude Photography (NHAP I)—Leaf-off Coverage
- Index to National High-Altitude Photography (NHAP II)—Leaf-on Coverage
- Index to a Set of One Hundred Topographic Maps Illustrating Specified Physiographic Features
- Index to USGS/DMA 1:50,000-Scale, 15-Minute Mapping
- Index to Intermediate-Scale Mapping/Index to County Mapping
- Index to Land Use and Land Cover Information
- Index to Small-Scale Maps of the United States
- Index to USGS Topographic Map Coverage of National Park System
- Index to Digital Line Graphs (DLG) From 1:24,000-Scale Maps and Digital Elevation Model (DEM) Data
- Index to Digital Line Graph (DLG) Data in 15-Minute Formats (from 1:62,500-scale maps)



*U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1986-491-409:40004

Meetings and Conventions

URISA '86
Urban and Regional Information Systems Association
August 10–14, 1986
Denver, Colorado

U.S. Geological Survey
National NCIC State Affiliates Meeting
August 11–15, 1986
Denver, Colorado

Regional Conference on Mediterranean Countries
International Geographical Union
August 23–September 13, 1986
Barcelona, Spain

International Federation of Library Associations
August 24–31, 1986
Tokyo, Japan

Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems
September 10–12, 1986
Madrid, Spain

Auto Carto London
September 14–19, 1986
London, England

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS)/American Congress on Survey and Mapping (ACSM)
September 28–October 3, 1986
Anchorage, Alaska

Fifth Thematic Conference
Remote Sensing for Exploration Geology
September 29–October 2, 1986
Reno, Nevada

Society of Photographic Scientists and Engineers
26th Fall Symposium
SPSE's Fifth International Conference and Exposition on Electronic Imaging
October 14–17, 1986
Arlington, Virginia

Twentieth International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment
December 4–10, 1986
Nairobi, Kenya

ISPRS Commission Symposia 1986

Commission III
From Analytical to Digital
August 19–22, 1986
Rovaniemi, Finland

Commission VII
Resources Development and Environmental Management
August 25–29, 1986
Enschede, The Netherlands

Commission I
Progress in Imaging Sensors
September 1–5, 1986
Stuttgart, Germany

Commission IV
Mapping from Modern Imagery
September 8–12, 1986
Edinburgh, Scotland

Commission VI
Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing in Economic Development
September 22–26, 1986
Lagos, Nigeria

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FTS 776-5829

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U.S. Geological Survey
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Rolla, Missouri 65401
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FTS 277-0851

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